

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4253

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 1114

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CB MP

SUBJECT: KHMER REPRESENTATION IN UNGA

REF: PORT LOUIS 1110

1. CHARGE WAS RECEIVED BY PRIMIN RAMGOOLAM LATE DECEMBER 3. ALTHOUGH PM UNAWARE THAT DEBATE ON KHMER REPRESENTATION HAD BEGUN (FONMIN DUVAL RATHER OBVIOUSLY DID NOT INFORM HIM OF ISSUE AS PROMISED REFTEL), PRIMIN SAID IMMEDIATELY THAT GOM HAD PROMISED SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK GROUP AND THAT "US WOULD LOSE." PRIMIN SAID THAT MAURITIUS HAD AGREED WITH OAU GROUP AT ALGIERS TO RECOGNIZE THIS GROUP, AND WOULD HOLD TO ITS COMMITMENT.

2. PM WENT ON TO STATE THAT WORLD WOULD ULTIMATELY SEE SIHANOUK RETURN TO POWER IN CAMBODIA AND THAT MAURITIUS, AS SMALL COUNTRY WITH RESPONSIBILITY TO OAU, RECOGNIZED THIS FACT AND WOULD VOTE ACCORDINGLY.

3. CHARGE PRESENTED ARGUMENT THAT INTRODUCTION OF ISSUE IN UN FORUM ADDED GREATLY COMPLICATING FACTOR IN NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARD CAMBODIA SETTLEMENT.

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4. PRIMIN THEN SAID THAT HE FELT FURTHER OBLIGATED TO REMAIN ON SIDE GRUNK SINCE CHINA, WHICH SUPPORTING SIHANOUK, HAD BEEN ONLY NATION WILLING TO FINANCE NEW AIRPORT FOR MAURITIUS AND NOW HE EXPERIENCING SOME "DIFFICULTIES" WITH CHINESE. (PRESUMED REFERENCE TO TECHNICAL DIFFERENCES WITH PRC AID MISSION HERE OVER HOW SOPHISTICATED AIRPORT FACILITIES WOULD BE.) THEREFORE HE HAD TO TAKE THIS SITUATION INTO ACCOUNT. BESIDES, HE AGAIN ADDED, PRO-GRUNK VOTES WERE THERE IN ABUNDANCE AND GOM VOTE WOULD NOT MATTER IN ANY EVENT. CHARGE THEN ADVANCED STATISTICS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA REGIONAL CONSENSUS AND OTHER EVIDENCE INDICATING VOTE MIGHT INDEED BE CLOSER THAN PM THOUGHT. PONDERING SOMEWHAT, PRIMIN ADMITTED VOTE MIGHT BE CLOSE AND PERSONALLY PENCILLED NOTES ON ISSUE AND ARGUMENTS PRESENTED.

5. COMMENT: PRIMIN GAVE IMPRESSION HE LOCKED INTO POSITION FOR SUPPORT PRO-SIHANOUK RES; IF ISSUE COMES TO VOTE MAURITIUS MAY NOT BE ABLE RESIST PRESSURES BEING EXERTED. HOWEVER, LATTER PART OF CONVERSATION REPORTED FOREGOING PARAS INDICATES SOME ELASTICITY. PM GENERALLY NOT ANXIOUS INCUR DISPLEASURE FROM ANY QUARTERS ON THIS TYPE ISSUE, SO MIGHT BE DISPOSED TO OPT FOR DEFERMENT, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION THIS. RAMGOOLAM SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE NEW YORK THIS WEEKEND TO RECEIVE UN HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD (PORT LOUIS 1101).
SULLIVAN

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